

**DGIF 2007 Periodic Regulation Review and Amendment Process and Schedule  
(Two-Year Cycle)**

Stage	Features
<b>End of 2005 Periodic Regulation Review and Amendment Process</b>  <i>July 1, 2006</i>	<p>Last date on which regulation amendments take effect that were adopted in final by the Board of Game and Inland Fisheries on October 27, 2005.</p>
<b>Regulation Issues Scoping Period</b>  <i>July 1, 2006 – January 31, 2007</i>	<p>Department of Game and Inland Fisheries (DGIF) staff collects and analyzes biological and sociological data relevant to regulatory issues, to include constituent satisfaction survey results, meetings with constituents in groups and individually, and other results of continuous, ongoing feedback from the public.</p>
<b>Staff Preliminary Recommendations Development Period</b>  <i>February 1 - March 12, 2007</i>	<p>From the data collected and analyzed during the Regulation Issues Scoping Period, staff develops <b>Preliminary Recommendations</b> for regulation amendments.</p> <p>Staff may give Preliminary Recommendations in either broad terms, or specific terms, as warranted by the regulatory issue. Preliminary Recommendations are a framework to facilitate public discussion of regulatory matters, and as such are open and susceptible to change, rather than fixed and conclusive. They may be added to or removed from consideration, or amended, at any point, as deemed appropriate.</p> <p>Staff mails Preliminary Recommendations to the Board March 13, 2007.</p>
<b>“Preliminary Recommendations” Board Meeting</b>  <i>March 27, 2007</i>	<p>The first Board meeting in the periodic regulation review and amendment process initiates public discussion of staff’s Preliminary Recommendations.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Staff presents its Preliminary Recommendations.</li> <li>2. The Board solicits and receives public comments on the Preliminary Recommendations.</li> <li>3. The public may request, and the Board may request or instruct, that Preliminary Recommendations be added to, removed from, or amended for, the Public Discussion Period.</li> <li>4. The Board is not asked to take any action, such as to approve or endorse, staff’s Preliminary Recommendations at this meeting.</li> </ol>

Stage	Features
<p><b>Preliminary Recommendations Public Discussion Period</b></p> <p><i>April 10 – June 15, 2007</i></p> <p><i>(duration: 2 months and 5 days)</i></p>	<p>Prior to further dissemination of the Preliminary Recommendations, staff considers the input or instructions received at the March Board meeting and makes any revisions deemed appropriate.</p> <p>April 10, two weeks after the initial Board meeting, the <b>Preliminary Recommendations Public Discussion Period</b> opens, running through June 15, 2007. Preliminary Recommendations are posted on the DGIF website in a format soliciting public comments and discussion, and are disseminated by other available means.</p> <p>The channels for submitting public discussion to DGIF are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Online through the agency website. Comments submitted online will be readable by browsers on the website; the comments will be displayed with the commenter's first name, last name, and city and state of residence. Not displayed online will be the commenter's street address, telephone number, and email address.</li> <li>2. Email sent or forwarded to <a href="mailto:RegComments@dgif.virginia.gov">RegComments@dgif.virginia.gov</a>.</li> <li>3. Mailed letters.</li> <li>4. Public comment at Board meetings. At the May or June 2007 Board meeting public comments on regulatory matters will be accepted.</li> <li>5. Staff will meet with constituent groups, local government officials, or hold public meeting in communities, to address single or multiple preliminary recommendations, in cases where such meetings are requested by those parties and staff is available. (In a change of process from 2005, a series of public meetings in which staff attempts to present all regulatory preliminary recommendations in a selection of localities statewide will not be held.)</li> </ol> <p>Comment and discussion received through other channels, or received after the end of the Public Discussion Period, will not be considered during the Staff Proposal-Stage Recommendation Development Period or forwarded to the Board.</p> <p>The Preliminary Recommendations may be revised at any time in the Public Discussion Period, as deemed appropriate, whether as a result of comments received or for other reasons.</p>
<p><b>Staff Proposal-Stage Recommendation Development Period</b></p> <p><i>June 16 - 29, 2007</i></p>	<p>Staff analyzes and assimilates the public discussion of the Preliminary Recommendations, and develops <b>Staff Proposal-Stage Recommendations</b> for regulation amendments.</p> <p>Staff mails Proposal-Stage Recommendations to the Board no later than July 3, 2007.</p>

Stage	Features
<p><b>"Regulation Proposal" Board Meeting</b></p> <p><i>July 17, 2007</i></p>	<p>In the second Board meeting in the periodic regulation review and amendment process:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Staff summarizes the public discussion of the Preliminary Recommendations.</li> <li>2. Staff presents its resulting Proposal-Stage Recommendations;.</li> <li>3. The Board solicits and receives public comments on the Proposal-Stage Recommendations.</li> <li>4. The Board deliberates and votes to <b>propose regulation amendments</b>.</li> </ol>
<p><b>Public Comment Period on Proposed Regulations</b></p> <p><i>July 24 - September 24, 2007</i></p> <p><i>(duration: 2 months)</i></p>	<p>A Public Comment Period in which the department solicits and receives comment on the <b>Board-Proposed Regulation Amendments</b> commences one week after the July "Regulation Proposal" Board meeting, and ends 22 days before the October "Final Action" Board meeting.</p> <p>The channels for submitting public comments on Proposed Regulations are the same as those listed for the Preliminary Recommendations Public Discussion Period. Comments received through other channels, or received after the close of the Public Comment Period, will not be forwarded to the Board.</p> <p>As during the Preliminary Recommendations Public Discussion Period, staff will meet with constituent groups, local government officials, or hold public meeting in communities, to address single or multiple proposals in cases where such meetings are requested by those parties and staff is available. (In a change of process from 2005, a series of public meetings in which staff attempts to present all regulatory proposals in a selection of localities statewide will not be held.)</p>
<p><b>Staff Final Recommendation Development Period</b></p> <p><i>September 25 – October 1, 2007</i></p>	<p>Staff analyzes and considers the public comments on the Board-Proposed Regulation Amendments and develops its Final Recommendations to the Board for regulation amendments.</p> <p>Staff mails <b>Final Recommendations</b> to the Board October 2, 2007.</p>
<p><b>"Final Action" Board Meeting</b></p> <p><i>October 16, 2007</i></p>	<p>This is the third and final Board meeting in the periodic review and amendment process.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Staff presents a summary of the public comments received.</li> <li>2. Staff presents its Final Recommendations.</li> <li>3. The Board solicits and hears public comments on the Proposed Regulations and Staff's Final Recommendations.</li> <li>4. The Board deliberates and <b>adopts Final Regulation Amendments</b>.</li> </ol>

Stage	Features
<b>Effective Dates of Regulation Amendments</b>  <i>January 1, March 1, and July 1, 2008</i>	<p>The Final Regulation Amendments adopted by the Board on October 16, 2007 become effective on different dates according to their subject matter, as follows:</p> <p>Fish and wildlife diversity regulation amendments: January 1, 2008  Boating regulation amendments: March 1, 2008  Game wildlife, hunting, and trapping amendments: July 1, 2008.</p>
<b>End of 2007 Periodic Regulation Review and Amendment Process</b>  <i>July 1, 2008</i>	<p>Last date on which regulation amendments take effect that are adopted in final by the Board of Game and Inland Fisheries on October 16, 2007.</p>
<b>2009 Periodic Regulation Review and Amendment Process</b>  <b>Regulation Issues Scoping Period</b>  <i>July 1, 2008 – January 2009</i>	<p>Department of Game and Inland Fisheries (DGIF) staff collects and analyzes biological and sociological data relevant to regulatory issues, to include constituent satisfaction survey results, meetings with constituents in groups and individually, and other results of continuous, ongoing feedback from the public.</p>